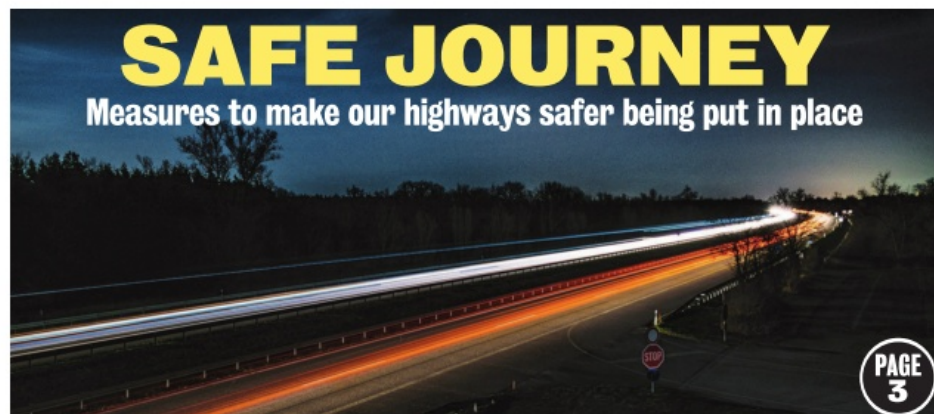


Bangalore Mirror

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Crumbling ceiling with iron rods exposed, damp and black walls, garbage not cleared for months — state of public crematoriums in city are a sorry ending to sordid infra tale

THE FINAL NAIL, INDEED

Wilson Garden crematorium in dire straits, Kalpalli no better off

I Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

There are more than 10 electric crematoriums in the city to ensure families can give their loved ones a decent final farewell. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had spent lakhs of rupees for the construction and maintenance of these crematoriums. The civic body has also been spending lakhs of rupees for the 'maintenance' of these crematoriums. But when this correspondent visited the crematoriums, it was difficult to spot any sign of this maintenance.

Most of the crematorium structures constructed many years ago are in urgent need of repair, renovation or even demolition. If neglected, these structures, which are vulnerable to collapse, pose danger to people who bring bodies to these final destinations.

Inside and outside of these structures are damp and the ceiling is spalled, exposing corroded steel bars.

At the Wilson Garden Electric Crematorium, the ceiling is broken and the corroded steel bars are a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >>



From left: Garbage accumulates at Kalpalli Electric Crematorium; sewage overflows at the drain here; ceiling of the Wilson Garden Electric Crematorium comes crumbling

“The dismal state of most public crematoria in Bengaluru at present only adds to the pain of bereavement. The civic authorities need to improve the situation urgently

— Ammu Joseph, author/journalist

It's a matter of principals

486 govt colleges don't have principals; no urgency shown to fill vacant posts



Sridhar Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

You will be surprised to know that many colleges in the state are literally 'headless'. There is a dearth of principals as the heads of the institutions have not been appointed in 486 institutes. As per the data available with BM, there are no principals in 412 Government first grade colleges, 67 government polytechnic and seven government engineering colleges.

The college staffers are upset that there has been such a long delay in recruiting principals as the post has been vacant for too long. Many lament the fact that the principals keep retiring, but the position is not filled immediately. "Even other senior positions in the collegiate department are vacant because the higher education system still follows the archaic policy of the Cadre and Recruitment Rules, 1967," said a college staffer.

An official from the education department explained what this is. "The Cadre and Recruitment Rules were formed in 1967 which had a promotion policy for all non-teaching and teaching faculty. A non-teaching staff had the upper grade promotions every two years and then they would

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

2 THINGS TO DO



01 Wedding ring

Team Antharanga is all set to perform its latest play Wedding Ring. The play revolves around conflict and the fragility of relationships. The play is directed by Archana Shyam, and written by Abhishek Iyengar.

Where: C Ashwath Kala Bhavana, Basavanudi;
When: July 29 – August 2, 7 pm



02 Business Network

Watch out for Bengaluru Business Network to connect, exchange sales opportunities, and expand your business networks. This curated event offers a platform to foster meaningful connections and engage in insightful discussions on industry-related topics.

Where: WeWork, Koramangala
When: July 29, 11 am

Auditors' conference

The Institute of Internal Auditors, Bangalore Chapter, hosted a one-day annual conference under the theme "Celebrating the Profession." The event brought together internal auditors from various sectors, offering a valuable opportunity



to learn from industry experts and connect with esteemed leaders in the field. Emphasizing the significance of continuous learning, networking, and recognizing the profession's growth, this conference served as a vital platform for professionals to interact, celebrate their achievements, and delve into the future of internal auditing.

Monsoon may take a 'break' next month

Karnataka's copious inflows in July averted potential water crisis

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Hheavy rainfall has been observed in many parts of Karnataka recently. Bengaluru experiences continuous drizzling, leaving city dwellers curious about the expected duration of the monsoon season. The latest forecast from the Karnataka weather Twitter handle indicates that the month of August may not be as rainy as anticipated.

The ECMWF extended range forecast suggests that the monsoon is likely to enter a weak/break phase during the next three to four weeks after the current active spell. This break is expected to last for many days in August, confirming the predictions made by a few private forecasters regarding a strong El Nino effect during the same period.

Amidst the weather fluctuations, several reservoirs in the state have received copious inflows in July, which has averted a potential water crisis. In the Cauvery catchment area, KRS (Krishna Raja Sagar) reservoir has surpassed the 108 feet mark, indicating favourable water levels. However, it is expected that inflows may reduce in the coming days as rainfall recedes in the



Bengaluru experienced continuous drizzling this month; August's break is in line with a few predictions made by forecasters regarding a strong El Nino effect during that period

catchment areas.

Despite the recent vigorous monsoon, there is still a need for more heavy rainfall to adequately fill the reservoirs. As of Thursday, the storage levels of various reservoirs show mixed results. Linganamakki, Supa, and Varahi reservoirs are filled up to 41%, 47%, and 31% of their respective capacities.

In the Cauvery basin, Harangi and Hemavathi reservoirs are filled up to 79% and 73%, respectively, while KRS and Kabini

Harangi and Hemavathi reservoirs are filled up to 79% and 73% while KRS and Kabini reservoirs are at 61% and 95% capacity

reservoirs are at 61% and 95% capacity. In the Krishna basin, Bhadra and Tunga Bhadra reservoirs are filled up to 41.08% and 49.76%, while Ghataprabha and Alamatti reservoirs are at 29.13% and 89.14% capacity.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru continues to enjoy pleasantly cool weather, with temperatures re-

sembling that of a hill station.

The daytime temperature reached a maximum of 25.8°C on Thursday, following three consecutive cold days with recorded maximum temperatures ranging between 24°C to 25.8°C. The city experiences a mix of sunshine and slight clouds, leading to clear skies by evening.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

scary reminder of imminent danger to those who visit this crematorium to attend the final rites of their near and dear ones. Though the BBMP engages a contractor to paint the structure every year, the walls continue to be damp and black with layers of smoke.

"When people come to a crematorium, they are usually already feeling sad over the loss of a loved one. They deserve to say their final goodbye to their deceased friend or relative in an atmosphere of peace and tranquility. Unfortunately, the dismal state of most public crematoria in Bengaluru at present only adds to the pain of bereavement. The civic authorities need to improve the situation urgently," said Ammu Joseph, independent journalist and author.

Ammu Joseph visited Wilson Garden Electric Crematorium to attend the cremation of a photographer/cinematographer Navroze Contractor last month.

Many people who visit Wilson Garden and Kalpal Electric cre-

No way to go

matoriums expressed the opinion that the BBMP must maintain them properly by ensuring no leaky roofs and also by clearing garbage on a regular basis.

One can find heaps of garbage on the premises of Kalpal Electric Crematorium. BBMP Health Inspector Divya told BM that garbage is not being cleared by Zonta Infratech Private Limited that has installed the bins there. "The garbage bins installed by Zonta Infratech Private Limited are full and no efforts were made to clear it despite repeated reminders to the supervisor of Zonta Infratech Private Ltd," said the BBMP Health Inspector.

The condition of the bathrooms and restrooms for women is pathetic. The restrooms have neither a pit facility nor an underground drainage facility. Doors of some restrooms and bathrooms are missing. It is said that the entire ceiling of the cre-

matorium becomes damp during monsoon.

Misplaced priorities

The electric crematorium at Kalpal was constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 22 lakh and it was opened for the public by the then Mayor Lawrence V Fernandes on December 23, 1988.

Now the condition of this crematorium is pathetic. It is shocking to know that the BBMP has funds to construct a generator room but no funds to repair the roof of the structure or to replace the corroded water pipes and old and damaged electric wires. "The BBMP officials must allocate funds for the renovation of Kalpal Electric Crematorium," said Bharathnagar Residents' Forum president NS Ravi.

When informed, BBMP assistant executive engineer (electrical) said that he had already sent a proposal to the projects depart-

ment requesting renovation of the structure which has become a risk for people visiting to attend final rites of their relatives.

However, BBMP Executive Engineer Ravindra (Projects) said that he has not received any proposal pertaining to Kalpal Electric Crematorium.

Meanwhile, Bhoopal M, Supervisor of Zonta Infratech Private Ltd, told BM that garbage was accumulated on the premises of Kalpal Electric Crematorium as the truck is being repaired. "I will ensure that garbage is cleared on a regular basis. I am aware that garbage was not cleared for the last one month. I will take measures to clear it without any delay," said Bhoopal.

Such shabby, dirty surroundings are really not the kind of environment and atmosphere for the last rites of loved ones. It just makes bereavement even more painful. Will the BBMP authorities agree with public opinion and take measures to maintain the electric crematoriums without any delay? Our fingers have been crossed for way too long.

Go Morth: Hit the highway, but be safe

Road safety audits, officers, rectification of black spots and more in strategies to make highways safer



File photo of a serial accident near Bidadi on a national highway stretch

I Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Tn the backdrop of cases of accidents on highways, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (Morth) has prepared a multi-pronged approach to increase safety on highways across the country including Karnataka.

As per data from police departments of all states/UTs, 52,9,841 accidents took place on State Highways and 66,4,821 accidents on national highways (NH) from 2017-2021. According to Morth, in heavy-traffic national highways, passenger car unit (PCU) can go beyond 1 lakh. The department's strategy to make highways safe is to address issues based on education, engineering, enforcement and emergency care.

All national highways have to undergo mandatory Road Safety Audits through third-party auditors at all stages of construction. Black spots have been identified and will be rectified on high priority. A Road Safety Officer has been designated at each regional office of road-owning agencies under Morth. As many as 130 stretches of NH have been identified for development as model-safe roads and 85 project stretches of NH have been identified as a model-safe construction zone. The ministry has also developed

a central repository for reporting, management, and analysis of road accident deaths across the country. Guidelines have been issued to offer drivers clear and concise guidance, warnings, notices and regulatory information.

Crackdowns on violations are being enforced under the Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Act 2019 and monitored using electronic means such as speed cameras, closed-circuit television cameras, speed guns, body wearable cameras, dashboard cameras, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR), weigh machine (WIM) and any such other

(FDAS). All school buses will have to be FDAS compliant from October 1. Vehicles will be tested for fitness through an automated system through the model Inspection and Certification Centre located in each state/UT. To enable the scrapping of old vehicles, a registered vehicle scrapping facility will be set up.

To protect the good samaritan, rules have been put in place under GSR 594 (dated September 29, 2020) which provides assistance or transports the victim in good faith and without expecting any reward. From February 2022, compensation for victims in hit-and-run motor accidents has been increased.

Experts say most of the measures have been already implemented but their effectiveness is questionable.

"These measures are not deep-rooted interventions. Reforms have to happen on providing licences to drivers. We don't have a phased licencing system. In many countries, you get a restricted licence. The driver needs to gain a sufficient amount of experience before getting a full licence. We need to look into driver behaviour and its connection with accidents," said Dr Ashish Verma of IISc.

Experts stress on deeper intervention, need to have a phased licencing system and focus on driver behaviour too

technology specified by the State Government.

Safer vehicles

The ministry has also made mandatory changes to the vehicles over the years to improve safety. Several measures such as mandated airbags for persons sitting next to the driver, use of safety harnesses, crash helmets, 30kmph restriction for carrying children below four years, speed-limiters for goods vehicles, and compliance of buses with Fire Detection and Alarm System

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Body cams must for cops

City Police Commissioner B Dayananda said that the city police department has instructed officers to wear body worn cameras during patrolling.

The commissioner took to Twitter and said, "Our patrol officers of #namma112 are now equipped with body-worn cameras (BWC). Their public engagements and actions will now be on record making them accountable. If you appreciate this step, take a selfie with our patrol officer and post on your SM handle."

Sources said that inspectors must wear body worn cameras when they are on duty in public areas including

protest and bandobast. Besides, the commissioner has instructed that police involved in important cases must wear cameras during arrest and interrogation. Thus, wearing a body worn camera will be transparent in the police's duty rather than facing baseless accusations.

Body worn cameras have also been distributed to 241 Hoysala patrol vehicles. The Hoysala ASI assigned to the duty should wear a body worn camera when going to the spot visits. The commissioner has instructed that the camera should be switched on while investigating the complaint. —BMB



PAGE
9

Ancient secrets

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BESCOM's handiwork: Want trim, get hacked

Remains of full-grown trees strewn around shock Wilson Garden residents

I Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents of Wilson Garden 14th Cross are expressing their outrage over the indiscriminate cutting of branches from six well-grown trees they have nurtured over the years. The actions of workers from the Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) have raised concerns about the lack of coordination between the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Forest Department and BESCOM in protecting the city's greenery.

"We planted saplings on both sides of the road a few years ago. We have nurtured these trees all these years. It is painful to see workers engaged by BESCOM cut the branches of these trees instead of trimming the branches. The BESCOM workers have cut the tree branches as per their whims and fancies," said Chandrasekhar, a resident of Wilson Garden.

Perhaps disturbed by the number of complaints lodged by environmentalists and residents, the Chief General Manager of BESCOM issued a circular on November 4, 2021, to engineers of BESCOM not to cut trees on the pretext of maintenance. The circular clearly stated that only twigs that are touching the live power lines have to be cut to avoid waste of electricity. However, the BESCOM workers continue to cut tree branches instead of trimming and removing twigs.

Expressing concern and shock over the indiscriminate cutting of tree branches, Arun Prasad, a social



Branches of six well-grown trees nurtured by the Wilson Garden residents were cut instead of trimming



"We planted saplings on both sides of the road a few years ago. It is painful to see workers engaged by BESCOM cut the branches of these trees instead of trimming the branches"

— Chandrasekhar, resident

activist and resident of Wilson Garden, has said the BESCOM engineers have to take permission to cut tree branches from the Tree Officer as per the Tree Preservation Act. "It is disgusting to see that BESCOM engineers are not following the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) issued by the BESCOM authorities. There was

no need for the BESCOM workers to cut branches instead of trimming the twigs that are touching the power lines. I demand the BBMP authorities initiate criminal action against those responsible for the cutting of tree branches," said Arun Prasad.

He said the BESCOM had given assurance to the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change that they would follow the SOP to protect the environment.

Meanwhile, BBMP Range Forest Officer (South) Chidananda has assured us to look into the matter. "I visited the spot after receiving a complaint from the residents of Wilson Garden. The BESCOM workers cut the tree branches unscientifically. I will speak to the BESCOM assistant executive engineer," said Chidananda.

Experts say robotics add precision to surgery

Apollo Hospitals achieved a significant milestone by completing 150 robotic colorectal surgeries. Dr Narasimhaiah Srinivasaiah, India's first European Board-accredited Robotic Colorectal Surgeon and Senior Consultant at Apollo Hospitals emphasised the importance of possessing the right attributes and skills for successful outcomes.

According to Dr Narasimhaiah, surgeons must demonstrate exceptional hand-eye coordination, spatial orientation, situational awareness, lateral thinking, and patience. These attributes play a crucial role in the precision and enhanced results achieved through robotic surgery.

Robotic surgery offers numerous advantages, including a stable platform, increased depth perception, a wider range of movements, high visibility, smaller scars, quicker recovery, and faster return to daily activities. "It is important that surgeons must have an artistic approach: as human anatomy serves as a canvas and the surgeons serve as artists, striving for the best possible patient care. Robotics adds more precision and enhanced outcome to it," said Dr Narasimhaiah. He added, "Robotic colorectal surgery, a cutting-edge form of laparoscopic surgery, proves highly effective in treating various cancers like colonic, rectal, anal, recurrent colorectal, and pelvic cancers.

To facilitate this advanced surgery, a dedicated minimally invasive surgical theatre and an Intuitive Da Vinci XI robotic system are being used. The essential attributes and skills required for successful robotic surgery, including hand-eye coordination, spatial orientation, and patience."

— BMB



Dr Narasimhaiah Srinivasaiah and others celebrate Apollo Hospitals' milestone achievement

Activists urge CM to revoke protest restrictions

I Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A delegation of activists from the Horatada Hakkigaagi Janandolana campaign, accompanied by former MLA Sowmya Reddy, met with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at his residence on Tuesday. Their primary demand was to urge the Chief Minister to direct the police to withdraw the 'Licensing and Regulation of Protests, Demonstrations, and Protest Marches (Bengaluru City) Order, 2021' which currently restricts all protests to Freedom Park.

Krishna Panyam, a participant in a previous protest against the proposed Sankey flyover and road widening project, told the Bangalore Mirror that on-site protests enable residents to become more aware of ongoing issues. In contrast, protests at Freedom Park often require a massive crowd to garner attention. In February, the Sadashivanagar police booked 70 citizens who participated in the walk around Sankey Lake in a criminal case. Activists in the city have been



File photo of a protest by the farmers association at Freedom Park

consistently pointing out that the order curbs the democratic rights of the people of Bengaluru.

Recently, Bahutva Karnataka also initiated a petition seeking the withdrawal of the order. "By relegating all protests to Freedom Park, we eliminate possibilities for key public conversations. This not only affects Bangaloreans but also harms residents from other parts of Karnataka who travel to the capital city to voice their concerns. By be-

ing relegated to a corner of the city where no one can see, the meaning of the protest itself gets devalued. The restricting of protests to Freedom Park impoverishes the very meaning of democracy and renders it hollow," it said. It also highlighted that the order violates the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1) (a), and the right to peaceful assembly under Article 19(1) (c) of the Constitution.

On the other hand, a few city residents want the government to ensure that the break out of protests does not lead to traffic congestion or other issues. Noting that the order was enacted as a Suo Moto Karnataka High Court Public Interest Litigation (PIL) launched in March 2021 sought "unobstructed vehicular traffic", Ranganath (name changed) said, "The government must ensure protesters are allowed to access spaces while also making sure that it does not lead to traffic hurdles."

Another resident said, "Since Town Hall is a traffic junction, the protesters will also be able to get their word out to a large number of people. It will not cause any congestion."

Starting woes hit tech start-up CEO

A Bengaluru-based tech startup founder and CEO has said that he may have to move back to the US after struggling for two months to register a company in the city. Brij Singh, who has worked in India and the US for 18 years, said he loves Bengaluru but has had difficulty getting his company registered there.

"Love Bangalore / India, but I have learnt more in last 3 days in Bay Area than I could in a month back home. Spent 2 months just to try to register a co in India & it's still not done," he tweeted.

— IANS

Stoned: Danger on our tracks

200 incidents of stone-pelting involving trains; Vande Bharat targeted 25 times

Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

The Vande Bharat train has once again fallen victim to stone pelting as miscreants attacked the train near Ramnagara on Wednesday. Shockingly, there have been more than 200 incidents of stone pelting reported in the State in the past year, with 49 arrests made by the railways police. However, the menace of stone pelting continues unabated, posing a threat not only to the trains but also to the safety of commuters. The Vande Bharat train has been a prime target for such attacks, having faced 25 instances of stone pelting. Although no commuters have been harmed in these attacks, two passengers were injured in stone-pelting incidents involving other trains in the state.

Railway officials revealed that the incidents of stone pelting on Vande Bharat trains have led to a loss of 55.60 lakh between the years 2019 and 2023 (up to June) across the country. Responding to these incidents, authorities



Officials point to the damaged window of a Vande Bharat train in Bengaluru; inset: A passenger clicks a picture of a cracked window

have arrested 151 individuals involved in stone pelting. Fortunately, there have been no reported incidents resulting in the loss of life or theft/damage to passenger belongings anywhere in India.

In an effort to address these concerning incidents, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, "Public awareness campaigns are being conducted to educate people

about the consequences of agitations leading to damage and destruction of railway property during such events. Train escorting parties have also been sensitised to maintain vigilance in vulnerable sections and spots where incidents of trains being vandalised are reported frequently. To combat stone pelting on moving trains, detailed guidelines have been issued, and a thorough analysis of such incidents is followed by taking substantial actions."

The minister said that to tackle the issue of stone pelting, regular drives are conducted

Train escorting parties have also been sensitised to maintain vigilance in vulnerable sections and spots

—Ashwini Vaishnaw, Railways Minister

against anti-social elements in affected sections and black spots. The Railway Protection Force (RPF) collaborates closely with the Government Railway Police (GRP) and local police to share critical information and control the menace effectively. "To provide immediate assistance to passengers, the Rail Madad Portal and the Helpline Number 139, integrated with the National Emergency No. 112, are readily available for lodging complaints. Railways are actively engaged with passengers through various social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and Koo, enhancing security measures and addressing security concerns raised by commuters. Surveillance is a top priority to ensure passenger safety, with CCTV cameras installed in 7,264 coaches of trains and 866 railway stations, playing a crucial role."

'Who will protect us from police?'

A citizen recently took to Twitter accusing ASI of KR Puram police station of trespassing and assault. Tarun Agarwal, also wrote a letter to the commissioner of police, stating, "Police misconduct & gross abuse of power by acting in an arbitrary high-handed unlawful manner."

The victim alleged that on the afternoon of Wednesday, at around 12.30 pm, while he was working from home attending an official virtual meeting at his residence, ASI Gangaanna Gowda and constable Krishnamurthy suddenly trespassed and came inside his property.

"He straight away started to harass me and stopped me from an important ongoing meeting, despite requesting them and also warning them that my dogs might feel threatened by them and attack hence asked them to step outside my property they clearly refused. One of the rescued dogs that was at my gate is very timid and this policeman had the audacity to chase away this harmless, voiceless child of God," tweeted the victim.

As per the post, the issue was related to feeding stray dogs. "As you are aware, it is not illegal to be compassionate & feed hungry animals on the street. I also rescue & attend to the medical treatment of any animal that is needy on the street," said the victim in the letter to the commissioner. The victim also questioned the safety of other citizens. "What safety factor has the government provided for us citizens by allowing such undignified officers to roam freely & cause mayhem all over? So many women volunteers feed late at night & a shiver runs down my spine to think of how people would behave with these ladies," he said. Police replied to the tweet informing that the matter has been forwarded to Assistant Commissioner of Police and Deputy Commissioner of Police, Whitefield, for further probe.—BMB

RESPONSE CONNECT INITIATIVE

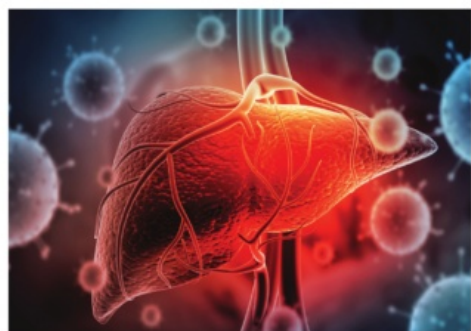
There is an alarming increase in cases of Hepatitis A among children during monsoon season. What are the preventive and treatment methods?

What is Hepatitis A?

Hepatitis A is a viral infection caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV). It is an inflammatory illness of the liver.

How is Hepatitis A different from Hepatitis B and C?

Hepatitis A does not cause chronic liver disease as in hepatitis B and C. However, it can cause acute debilitating symptoms and, less frequently, fulminant hepatitis (rapid liver failure), which may prove fatal.



What are the symptoms of Hepatitis A?

Hepatitis A can be symptomatic or asymptomatic. In symptomatic cases, clinically it presents with a range of mild to severe symptoms including fever, malaise, loss of appetite, diarrhoea, nausea, abdominal pain, dark urine, and jaundice (a yellowing of the skin and eyes).

How does Hepatitis A spread (Transmission of Hepatitis A)?

HAV is more common, especially in children under 10 and during the monsoon season. The disease typically spreads via the faecal-oral route, which is when an uninfected and unvaccinated person consumes contaminated food or water.

Typically, people have a taste for fried, spicy street food during the monsoon season and are consumed in less

than optimal locations, street foods are typically unsanitary or not very healthy for ingestion and may harm the digestive system. Additionally, the wet and humid monsoon weather is perfect for germ spawning, raising the danger of illnesses.

A substantial risk of contracting HAV exists for those who live in unsanitary environments, lack of access to clean water, poor personal hygiene, or sharing a home with an infected individual. Adults may potentially contract it through substance abuse and close physical (sexual) contact with an infectious person.

What is the treatment for Hepatitis A?

There is no specific treatment for Hepatitis A. It is managed symptomatically. Recovering from the symptoms may take weeks or months. Maintaining a healthy diet with foods that are nutritionally balanced and adequate hydration to maintain fluid balance is crucial during the recovery.

What are the preventive measures for Hepatitis A?

The best measures to prevent hepatitis A include getting vaccinated with the

Hepatitis A vaccine.

Avoiding contaminated food, drinking safe water, increasing sanitation and personal hygiene, and avoiding close contact with infected persons also help preventing Hepatitis A.



Quote by

Dr. Rajiv Lochan

Lead Consultant

Surgeon - HPB & Liver Transplantation Surgery, Manipal Hospital, Old Airport Road, Bangalore

manipalhospitals

LIFE'S ON

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Will Hulimangala get relief from garbage menace?

Panchayat faces challenges in providing basic services to the residents: lack of infrastructure, poor garbage disposal, overcrowding

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In a gathering organised by Hulimangala Village Panchayat on July 25, hundreds of residents from Hulimangala and neighbouring villages came together to address the growing issues. The purpose of the meeting was to have an interaction with the villagers and redress their grievances. The issue is whether the Hulimangala Village Panchayat is capable of catering to the needs of the population that is equal to five village panchayats. The ideal population for a village panchayat is 5,000 to ensure better governance and basic amenities. Hulimangala Gram Panchayat has more than 25,000 and 17 villages, including around 15,000 apartment units. The question by villagers is whether the Hulimangala Village Panchayat is capable of catering to the needs of the population that is equal to five village panchayats.

The residents have been demanding the authorities concerned to upgrade Hulimangala Gram Panchayat as City Municipal Council or merge it with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) but in vain. In their opinion, Hulimangala Gram Panchayat does not have the resources and manpower to cater to the needs of a popula-

I appeal to the residents not to dump garbage on the road. Garbage problems will be solved if the residents hand over garbage to the people engaged by a private garbage contractor

— Krishnappa, Hulimangala Panchayat Development Officer



Half of the Hulimangala roads are occupied with garbage and other wastes

tion of more than 25,000. According to them, Hulimangala is no more a village but a city.

"It is not that the Panchayat Development Officer of Hulimangala is not doing anything to mitigate the infrastructure-related problems. He has been doing his best but he needs villagers' cooperation to keep the surroundings free from garbage," said Mani Ranajan, a resident.

According to him, a proposal to set up a sewage treatment plant (STP) at Shikaripura Lake has been pending for quite some time. "A petition was filed with the National Green Tribunal (NGT) Principal Bench requesting to direct the authorities concerned to clear encroachments and prevent the flow of waste or sewage into the lake. The KSPCB constituted a joint committee to inspect

Shikaripalya lake. The NGT has recommended installation of a sewage treatment plant (STP) but the work is yet to begin," Ranjan said.

Animesh Jha, a resident of Mahendra Elena 5, has said the condition of the roadside drains is pathetic. "The proposal for the construction of an STP has been pending for quite some time. The STP is required for the survival of Shikaripura Lake which is being polluted with dirty water carried by storm water drains," said Animesh Jha.

Sajimon Chandran, a resident, has said the road near Janavi Cafe Town was damaged more than one-and-a-half years ago but the authorities concerned are yet to asphalt it. "There are more than 9,000 voters in Shikaripalya but the authorities did not construct a STP which is a must

to stop waste or dirty water into Shikaripalya Lake," said Sajimon Chandran.

Meanwhile, Hulimangala Panchayat Development Officer Krishnappa has said the work on roadside drains has already been commenced. "We have made arrangements to collect garbage from door to door. Garbage collected from door to door is being transported to vacant land owned by the government. I appeal to the residents not to dump garbage on the road. Garbage problems will be solved if the residents hand over garbage to the people engaged by a private garbage contractor," said the PDO.

The PDO has said the developmental works that were pending would be taken up by the end of the monsoon.

Tiger census records rise in unique sightings

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The number of tigers has a unique increase in population by 7.67% from 404 in 2018 to 435 in 2022, according to the latest report released by Eshwara Khandre, Karnataka's Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister on Thursday. This report is an analysis of the All India Tiger Estimation exercise conducted in Karnataka last year.

The report highlights that the majority of the additional unique tigers were recorded in the state's tiger reserves. Out of the 435 unique tigers recorded in the 2022 census, 140 were spotted in Bandipur Tiger Reserve, 149 in Nagarhole Tiger Reserve, 39 in Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple (BRT) Tiger Reserve, 26 in Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary and Tiger Reserve, and 19 in Kali Tiger Reserve. The remaining 57 unique tigers were recorded in other forest divisions. The population size outcome is expected to be higher than the estimate of the 2018 census. Based on 404 unique tigers in the 2018 census, the total number of tigers estimated was 524.

According to the reports, the increase in unique tiger sightings can be attributed to improved spatial sampling, including the addition of adjacent suitable tiger habitats to the existing tiger reserves. Interestingly the majority of the additional unique tigers are from the tiger reserves, especially from Bandipur, Nagarhole, and Kali Tiger Reserve.

The 2022 census witnessed increase in camera trap coverage which enabled the recording of 66.86 lakh of tiger images in the 2022 census, up from 49.79 lakh in 2018.

The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), experts believe that Karnataka is well on its way to becoming India's 'Tiger State.' The encouraging rise in tiger numbers indicates a positive trend in wildlife conservation efforts.

"Unfortunately, these days wildlife conservation has been turned into a show business and made look like a competition of numbers. What would be useful is to compare how many tiger habitats are lost each year or how many unnatural tiger deaths occur and use them as a measure of success. Wildlife numbers, including tigers, go through a natural cycle of ups and downs due to various factors. What we should be concerned about is unnatural deaths due to poaching, retaliatory killing, vehicular accidents, etc, and very importantly loss of habitat," conservation scientists Sanjay Gubbi. Experts say, Nagarhole, Bandipur, and BRT, have reached their ecological carrying capacity for tigers, leading to a high number of human-tiger conflict cases.

Citizen jury unveils domestic workers' plight

Eight powerful stories displaying challenges faced by domestic workers at workplaces of Bengaluru were looked into by a citizen jury, on Wednesday.

Current working conditions of the workers, wage theft, workplace safety, social security, sexual harassment, theft allegations, and inquiry process at the workplace are some of the issues that were highlighted by young women workers in the city.

"Domestic workers form the backbone of the care industry and

are productive workers. The majority of these domestic workers are women, who age early and end up with many health issues.

Migrant workers form even more vulnerable sections who work as live-in domestic workers. Many young girls are brought into cities like Bengaluru from states such as Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Orissa, and some other states become victims of forced labour.

The citizen jury was conducted to also highlight innumerable and invisible structural issues too," said

Geetha Menon of the Domestic Workers Rights Union.

Those working towards the upliftment of this marginalised section of society say that governments so far have neglected the issues faced by this workforce and avoided providing legal identity to them.

There is no grievance redressal mechanism in place for domestic workers facing all kinds of harassment and exploitation. After hearing their voices, the jury will come up with a verdict which will be used for advocacy strategies.

"There is a minimum wage act in the country but domestic workers are paid much less. After hearing the cases, the citizen jury has come up with verdicts, which will be used to formulate advocacy strategies with the government, hopefully leading to a policy.

The idea is to underline the kind of governance structure and forums that can be created for a viable and right-based employer-employee relationship so that the domestic workers have a dignified workplace too," said Menon. **BMB**

Hooligan holiday

Instagram is making you a worse tourist—here's how to travel respectfully

Travel is back in full swing this summer, and so is bad behaviour by tourists. Popular destinations have seen an uptick in incidents involving tourists in recent years. Reports of a man defacing the Colosseum in Rome shows that behaviour has deteriorated even in places that rarely had problems in the past.

What's behind these abhorrent acts? One answer, my research shows, is social media.

Instagram and TikTok have made it easy to find "hidden gem" restaurants and discover new destinations to add to your bucket list. But this democratisation of travel has had other consequences. Because people now see their social media connections from their home environment travelling in an exotic location, they assume (consciously or not) that behaviour they ordinarily carry out at home is also acceptable in that holiday destination.

This is known as social proof, when we look to the behaviours of others to inform our own actions. People are likely to act more hedonistically while on holiday. Now, travellers also look to social media for proof of how others behave. If their peers from home are throwing caution to the wind while on holiday, this can cause a domino effect of bad behaviour.

I've identified other bad travel attitudes and habits that have emerged as a result of social media-driven tourism.

For example, the identifiable victim effect, which explains how people are more likely to sympathise with victims of tragedies when they know who those victims are. Because tourists are often sheltered in hotels and resorts away from local communities, they might (wrongly) think that travelling to a place far from home is an opportunity for consequence-free bad behaviour. They underestimate or ignore the effect their actions can have on locals or the economy.

The Instagram effect

When people travel to a beautiful place, the temptation to post photos and videos to social media is high. But, as I have argued, this creates a cycle that contributes to more self-indulgent travel.



First, tourists see their friends post photos from a place (revealed through geotags). They then want to visit the same places and take the same sorts of photos of themselves there. Eventually they post them on the same social networks where they saw the initial photos.

Being able to travel to and post about visiting the same places as one's social group or online connections can be a form of social status. But it means that, in some cases, travellers will put more energy into creating content than they will to exploration, discovery or being respectful to local customs.

Hotspots respond

Bali is one destination with a reputation for social media-induced tourism. The photogenic island, replete with yoga retreats, is a huge draw for influencers.

In response to tourist misbehaviour, Bali introduced new guidelines for visitors in June 2023.

These include rules about proper behaviour in the sacred temples, around the island and with locals, and respecting the natural environment. Tourists now need a licence for motorbike rentals, and may not set foot on any mountain or volcano in Bali due to their sacred nature. Travellers must only stay in registered hotels and villas (which will impact a number of Airbnb

properties). Bali has introduced a "tourist task force" to enforce the restrictions, through raids and investigations if necessary.

One new guideline is to not act aggressively or use harsh words towards locals, government officials or other tourists both while in Bali, or, notably, online.

This speaks to the role of social media as part of the problem when it comes to bad tourist behaviour.

Other destinations have taken similar steps. Iceland, Hawaii, Palau, New Zealand, Costa Rica and others have adopted pledges for visitors to abide by local laws and customs. Campaigns like Switzerland's No Drama, Austria's See Vienna – not #Vienna, Finland's Be more like a Finn and the Netherlands' How to Amsterdam are aimed at attracting well-behaved tourists.

Where such efforts aren't successful, some places such as Thailand's famous Maya Bay have taken it further and fully closed to tourists, at least temporarily.

Travel respectfully

Remember you are a guest of the host communities when you travel. Here are some ways to ensure that you will be asked back.

Do your research

Even if you're a seasoned traveller, you may not realise the impact your actions have on local communities. But a bit of information – from your own research or provided by local governments –

might be enough to help you act more appropriately. Before you go, look up background information on cultural or safety norms.

Put down your phone...

Research shows that when travelling, people can become alienated from their surroundings if they are more focused on their devices than the destination. Often the most memorable travel experiences will be when you have a meaningful connection with someone, or learn something new that you've never experienced before. That becomes harder if you're constantly looking at your phone.

...or use your influence for good

In popular "Instagram v reality" posts, influencers are revealing the huge crowds and queues behind the most Instagrammable locations. Showing the less-than-glamorous conditions behind those iconic shots could influence your own social media connections to rethink their personal travel motivations – are they just going somewhere to get the perfect selfie?

Having more evidence of these conditions circulating online could lead to a larger societal shift away from social media-induced tourism. If you have the urge to post, try to promote smaller businesses and make sure you are demonstrating proper (and legal) etiquette on your holiday.

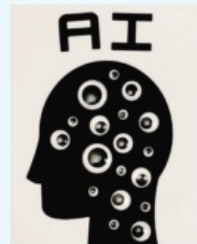
(By Lauren A Siegel, University of Greenwich, The Conversation)

BITS & BYTES

UNITED FOR SAFE AI

Four major tech companies -- Google, OpenAI, Microsoft, and Anthropic have come together to form a new industry body designed to ensure the "safe and responsible development" of "frontier AI" models. In response to growing calls for regulatory oversight, these tech firms have announced the formation of "Frontier Model Forum" which will draw on the technical and operational expertise of its member companies to benefit the entire AI ecosystem and develop a public library of solutions to support industry best practices and standards.

The Forum aims to help -- advance AI safety research to promote responsible development of frontier models. **IANs**



MICROSOFT'S RISKY TIE-UP



Microsoft on Thursday found itself the target of an European Union antitrust investigation over the bundling of its chat and video app Teams with its Office product, putting it at risk of a hefty fine.

The US tech giant has racked up 2.2 billion euros (\$2.5 billion) in EU antitrust fines in the previous decade for practices in breach of EU competition rules, including tying or bundling two or more products together. Since then Microsoft has adopted a more conciliatory approach with the European Commission.

The European Commission's investigation followed a complaint by Salesforce-owned workspace messaging app Slack in 2020. **Reuters**

WHATSAPP SAFETY TOOLS



Meta-owned messaging platform WhatsApp is rolling out new safety tools for when users receive messages from unknown phone numbers, on Android beta.

The app will now show a new screen the first time beta users receive a message from an unknown phone number, reports WABetaInfo. With this, the company intends to tell users what they can do when they get messages from unknown numbers. The screen provides users with quick options to block unknown contacts or report them to the moderation team. It also gives users information about how to stay safe in chat by checking the profile name, the photo. **IANs**

“Often the most memorable travel experiences will be when you have a meaningful connection with someone, or learn something new. That becomes harder if you're constantly looking at your phone

Draconian policy to blame for headless colleges

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

continue to serve in the institution. Teachers used to become senior lecturers, professors, assistant professors and so on. That is how they could become a principal of the institution; and after certain years they would become directors or joint directors of the collegiate education department."

This draconian policy got amend-

ed in 2009. "Without any consultation with the teaching fraternity, this policy was taken over by a few non-teaching 'leaders' who led a movement to change this. This change was definitely in their favour. What they did was interesting.

They stopped the promotion policy for the teachers and continued it for the non-teaching staff. The implications of this amendment were disastrous. For example, some-

one who joined as a clerk with just SSLC (10th standard qualification) will be promoted every two years," said the source.

As a result of this the source explained that the clerk would become first division officer, then division officer, then superintendent, and then can keep moving up to become a joint director.

"So, the system would end up having a person with the highest

qualification of SSLC in such a high position. All this can happen within a span of 10 years. But, an appointed lecturer will retire as a lecturer even after several years of his/her experience in the institution," he said.

Later, according to the amendment, the senior positions in the department were appointed by an IAS officer or promotions were through selection from the cadre of

Deputy Directors of Public Instruction.

"This is the reason for the vacancies and the 'in-charge' profiles. In 2014, the High Court ordered that senior lecturers be taken into the scale of promotion and principals be appointed to the colleges. What is the government doing? Just violating the High Court order," added another senior lecturer.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Abhijin Balaji S/o Sri. A.G. Nanjunda Setty R/o No.25 mantralaya 15th cross, JP Nagar 4th phase, Bangalore 560078 have changed my minor daughter's name from Yuvika A Abhijin to Yukthi A Abhijin for all purposes

I, Thejaswini L. N. D/o. Lakshminarayana T, Residing at No 29/A, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, Opp Amruthahalli Police Station, C Sector Amruthanagar, Bangalore-560092 have changed my name to TEJASWINI L N vide affidavit dated 27.07.2023 Sworn before notary: R. Raghunath Rao, Bangalore

I, KIRAN H S, residing at No.2, Gowri Manohari, 12th Cross, Ulal Main road, Muneshwara Nagar, Bangalore - 560056 have changed my minor daughter's name from GAANIKA KIRAN H to GOWRI MANOHARI H, affidavit dated 21.11.2022 before notary Devaraja E, Bangalore.

I, NAVAMANI Ramapura Lakshmaiah, W/O Lakshman Chikkamuniyappa residing at No 3220 opp Byregowda compound 4th main 6th cross PC extension Kolar 56310, have changed my name to Navamani L for all future purposes.

I, Siva Rama Krishna Reddy Bogi Reddy/ Villa 202, Morefields by Manyata, Chembenahalli Road, Neriga Village, Chembenahalli Road, Sarjapura, Bangalore - 562125. Have Changed My Minor daughter's Name From LASYASRI.B To LASYA BOGI REDDY For All Future Purposes

I, Manjunath A N R/o 723, 11th Cross, 25th main, HSR layout, sector 1, Bengaluru 560102 have changed my name to Manjunatha Arinaganahalli Narayanaswamy, (Manjunatha A N) affidavit Dt.24/07/2022 notary Harisha G, Bluru

I Fouziya (old Name) W/O. Intiyaz Pasha R/o H No 29 Sanjeev Reddy Layout, Jp Nagar 9 Th Phase Anjanapura Main Road Bengaluru 560062 have changed my name to Fouziya Abdul Razak Shaikh (new Name) for all purposes.

I, Abhijin Balaji S/o Sri. A.G. Nanjunda Setty R/o No.25 mantralaya 15th cross, JP Nagar 4th phase, Bangalore 560078 have changed my minor son's name from Yuvika A Abhijin to Yashas A Abhijin for all purposes

I, Poornima Chandra Shekhar R/a 131, 2nd main, 13th Cross, AECS 1st Stage, Sanjaynagar, Bangalore 560094. I have changed my name to Poornima. Vide affidavit dated 03-07-23. Sworn before notary N Mahesha Bangalore.

I, Chaitanya S R/O #C-206, Fortuna White Wings Apartment, Basavanagar, Bangalore-37, have Changed my name to Chaitanya S

I Sadiya Kausar Sk D/O, Syed Kaleemulla R/o #33,4th Cross Vinayaknagar Jp Nagar 5th Phase Bangalore 560078 have changed my name to Sadiya Kausar for all purposes.

I Nasreen w/o Aslam Pasha R/o #002, Sai enclave, MLA layout, 3rd cross, Kalena Agra -hara, Bengaluru 560076 have changed my name to Nasreen Begum affidavit dt.27/ 07/2023 notary Harisha G, Bluru

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MIND, BODY & HEART



All you need to know about...

Snacking right

Munchies

Love to munch on snacks in between your meals? Beware, late-night nibbles or snacking on highly processed foods could negatively affect health, according to a study.

Effect on health

Snacking is becoming increasingly popular, with more than 70% of people reporting they snack at least twice a day. In a new study involving more than 1,000 people, researchers examined whether snacking affects health and if the quality of snacks matters.

Quality, timing matters

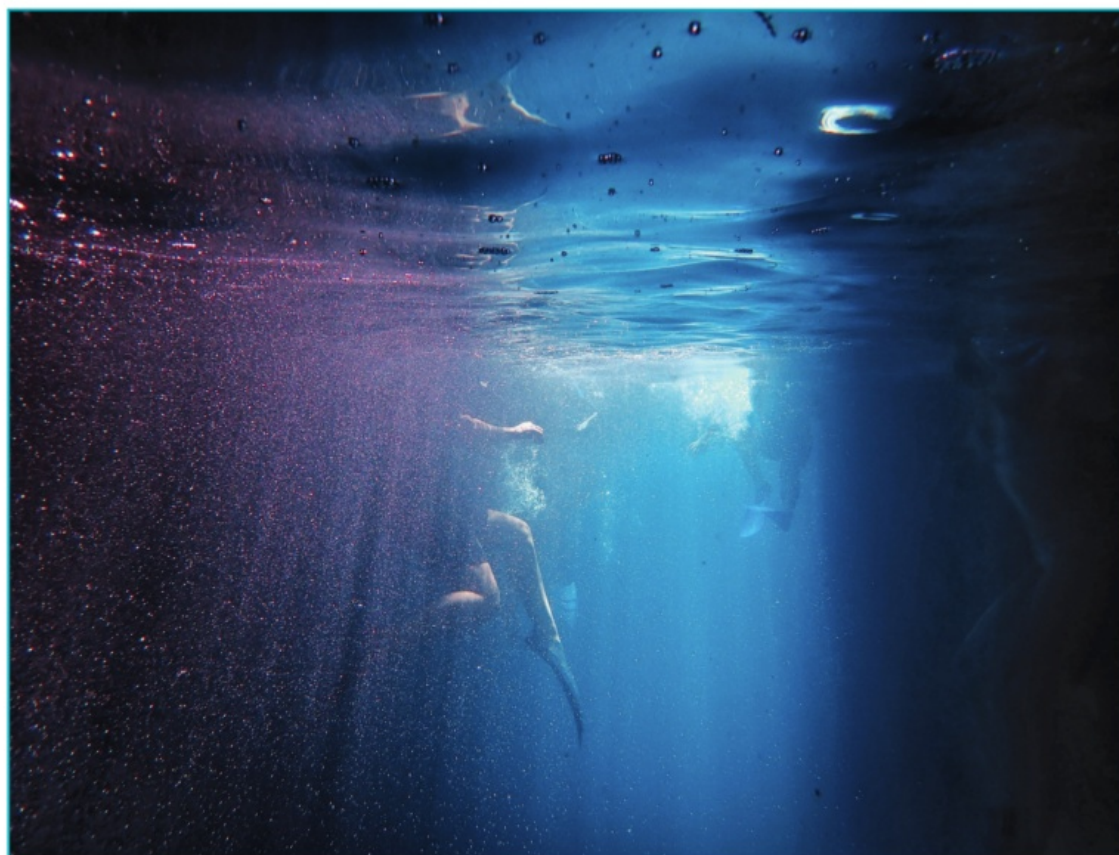
"Our study showed that the quality of snacking is more important than the quantity or frequency of snacking, thus choosing high quality snacks over highly processed snacks is likely beneficial," said Kate Bermingham, a postdoctoral fellow at King's College London. "Timing is also important, with late night snacking being unfavourable for health. "Little has been published on snacking, despite the fact that it accounts for 20-25% of energy intake," Bermingham said.

Blood fats and insulin

In the study, researchers examined the relationship between snacking quantity, quality, and timing with blood fats and insulin levels that are indicators of cardiometabolic health. The analysis showed that snacking on higher quality foods — foods that contain significant amounts of nutrients relative to the calories — was associated with better blood fat and insulin responses.

Late-evening snacking

Researchers also observed that late-evening snacking that lengthens eating windows and shortens the overnight fasting period, was associated with unfavourable blood glucose and lipid levels. There was no association between frequency, calories consumed, and food quantity with any of the health measures analysed. —IANS



ANCIENT SECRETS

IISc researchers stumble upon water droplets from ancient ocean that can have answers about evolution of life

Researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have stumbled upon water droplets from an ancient ocean that can potentially provide some answers to events that led to the evolution of complex life forms on earth.

High up in the Himalayas, IISc scientists along with researchers from Niigata University, Japan, have discovered droplets of water trapped in mineral deposits that were likely left behind from an ancient ocean that existed around 600 million years ago. Analysis of the deposits, which had both calcium and magnesium carbonates, has also allowed the team to provide a possible explanation for events that might have led to a major oxygenation event in the earth's history.

"We have found a time capsule for paleo oceans," said Prakash Chandra Arya, a PhD student at the Centre for Earth Sciences (CEaS), IISc, and first author of the study published in Precambrian Research.

Scientists believe that between 700 and 500 million years ago, thick

sheets of ice covered the earth for an extended period, called the Snowball Earth glaciation. What followed this was an increase in the amount of oxygen in the earth's atmosphere, called the Second Great Oxygenation Event, which eventually led to the evolution of complex life forms. So far, scientists have not fully understood how these events were connected due to the lack of well-preserved fossils and the disappearance of all past oceans that existed in the earth's history. Exposures of such marine rocks in the Himalayas can provide some answers.

"We don't know much about past oceans. How different or similar were they compared to present-day oceans? Were they more acidic or basic, nutrient-rich or deficient, warm or cold, and what was their chemical and isotopic composition?" Such insights could also provide clues about the earth's past climate, and this information can be helpful in climate modeling," said Arya.

The deposits found by the team — which date back to around the time of the Snowball earth glaciation — showed that the sedimentary basins were deprived of calcium for an extended period, probably due to low riverine input. "During this time, there was no flow in the oceans, and hence no calcium input. When there is no flow or calcium input, as more calcium precipitates, the amount of magnesium goes up," explains Sajeesh Krishnan, Professor at CEaS and corresponding author of the study. The researchers suggest that the magnesium deposits formed at this time could trap paleo ocean water in their pore space as they crystallised.

Analysis of deposits has allowed team to provide possible explanation for events that may have led to major oxygenation event in earth's history

The calcium deprivation also likely led to a nutrient deficiency, making it conducive for slow-growing photosynthetic cyanobacteria, which could have started spewing out more oxygen into the atmosphere. "Whenever there is an increase in the oxygen level in the atmosphere, you will have biological radiation (evolution)," added Arya.

The team hunted for these deposits across a long stretch of the western Kumaon Himalayas, extending from Amritpur to the Milam glacier, and Dehradun to the Gangotri glacier region. Using extensive laboratory analysis, they were able to confirm that the deposits are a product of precipitation from ancient ocean water, and not from other places, such as the earth's interior such as from submarine volcanic activity.

The researchers believe that these deposits can provide information about ancient oceanic conditions such as pH, chemistry, and isotopic composition, which have so far only been theorised or modeled. Such information can help answer questions related to the evolution of oceans, and even life, in earth's history. —BMB

FROM TODAY ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಪ್ರಸನ್ನ 2ನೇ (1:30pm, 4:30pm)

Cinépolis
ETA HAMMA MALL
ROYAL MEENAKSHI
ORION EAST
SHANTHINIKETAN
SJR - AREKERE
FUN CINEMAS

GOPALAN CINEMAS
ARCADE MALL
INNOVATION MALL
LEGACY MALL
GRAND MALL
SIGNATURE MALL

ROCKLINE mall & cinemas

INOX
MANTRI SQUARE
CENTRAL MALL
SWAGATH MALL
GARUDA MALL
RMZ GALLERIA
GARUDA YELAHANKA
NEXUS FORUM
BROOKFIELD
LIDO - ULSOOR
SBR HORIZON

PVR
PVR ORION
PVR FORUM
PVR VAISHNAVI
PVR REGALIA
PVR MARKET CITY
PVR VEGA CITY
PVR SPIRIT
PVR UPTOWN
PVR GT MALL
PVR AURA
PVR REX
PVR BHARATHIYA CITY
PVR GLOBAL MALL

PVR REX | NEXUS | ORION | VAISHNAVI | VEGA | REGALIA | ARENA
MARKET CITY | GT | AURA | VR | SPIRIT | UPTOWN | GLOBAL

INOX MANTRI | CENTRAL | GARUDA | YELAHANKA | SWAGATH
BROOKFIELD | LIDO | RMZ | NEXUS NEIGHBOURHOOD

Cinépolis ETA | MEENAKSHI | ORION EAST | GOPALAN
SJR | LULU | SHANTHINIKETAN

INNOVATIVE MARATHI HALLI

MUKTA 12 UTHARAHALLI

MIRAJ SUNKADAKATTE

MUKUNDA SEVANAGAR | **SAMPIGE** MALLESHWARAM | **POORNIMA** J.C.ROAD | **AMRUTH**
LINGARAJPUR | **PUSHPANJALI** B.N.PURA | **LAKSHMI** TAVAREKERE | **ARUNA** SRIRAMPURA
BALAJI VANNARPET | **PUSHPANJALI** SULTANPALLY | **MAHADESHWARA** KADIRENAHALLI
VIJAY MYSORE ROAD | **KRISHNA** BOMMANAHALLI | **VINAYAKA** MYSORE RD | **RAVI** EJIPURA

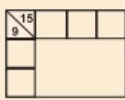
IN CINEMAS TODAY

DD RETURNS

KARNATAKA RELEASE BY - VR FILMS - 9916687061 VENKATESH KAMALAKAR

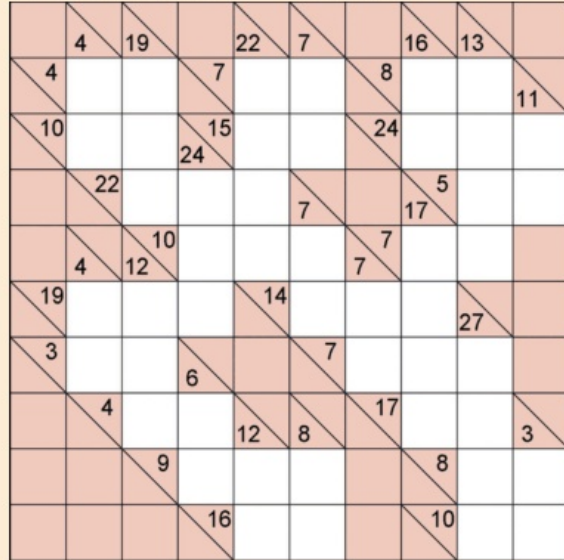
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

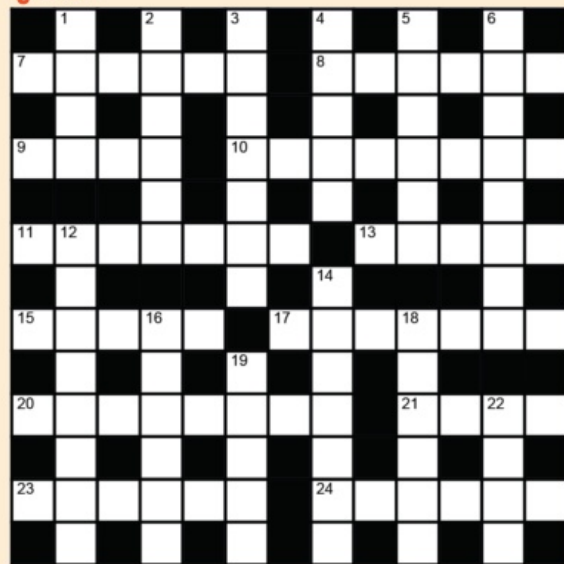


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 7 City in Switzerland (6)
- 8 Acid test (6)
- 9 Hankering (4)
- 10 By hand (8)
- 11 Bravery (7)
- 13 Sportsman on snow slopes (5)
- 15 Skilled person (5)
- 17 Salvages or saves (7)
- 20 Objects (8)
- 21 A brewer's cart (4)
- 23 Celestial winged beings (6)
- 24 Everything ready (3,3)

DOWN

- 1 Football kick (4)
- 2 Vacillate (6)
- 3 Karnataka district known for its trekking trails (7)
- 4 Slope (5)
- 5 Offensive (6)
- 6 Central disc of a target (5,3)
- 12 Bidding, commanding or ruling (8)
- 14 Coarse sacking (7)
- 16 Valued at (6)
- 18 Over-indulge, pamper or placate (6)
- 19 Near (5)
- 22 Help a felon (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Q EQUALS T
KWW HT HJ QDB DKJMT SX
AKJ. QDBGBXSGB YKTD QDBA
SXQBJ.



Linemaro

A hundred hearts would be too few to carry all my love for you



Mindchow

The best way out is always through



Joke of the day

If money doesn't grow on trees, why do banks have branches?

Loop

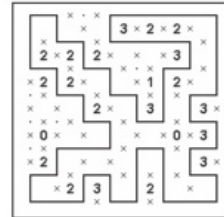
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

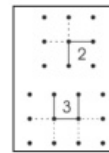
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

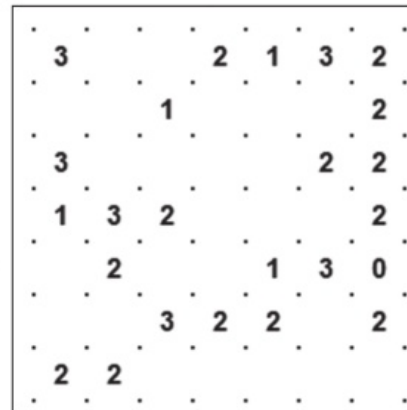
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



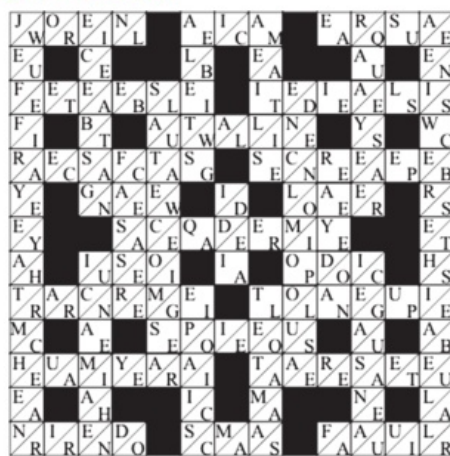
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



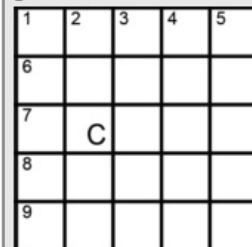
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

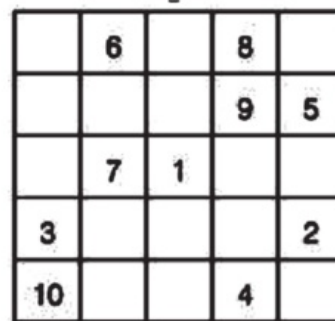
- 1 Reaps; 6 Caret;
- 7 Cutis; 8 Tints;
- 9 MSN it

DOWN

- 1 Prims; 2 Trice;
- 3 Antic; 4 Us TNT;
- 5 Asset

Mensapuzzle

Place the numbers 11 to 25 in the square so that each horizontal line, vertical line and the two diagonal lines all add up to 65.



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; 08 Good; 10 Outstanding



SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

□ □ □ □ □ = 15

2 5 5 6

Medium

□ □ □ □ □ = 17

1 2 5 8

Hard

□ □ □ □ □ = 11

2 8 8 6

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Briefcase is missing. 2. Button is added. 3. Car is added on other side of street. 4. Shutter is missing. 5. Bush is moved. 6. Mailbox is missing.

In this teaser you are required to find a word relating to mathematics hiding in consecutive letters within each sentence. Have fun!

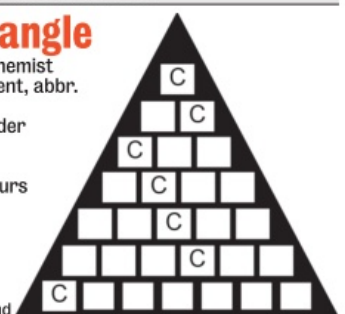
1. He gave his pet serpent a gondola ride.
2. How did the koala cub end up with the kangaroo?
3. Did the kind entomologist pamper centipedes?
4. The scholarship includes tuition but does not cover textbooks.

Riddler

Alpha triangle

- 1 Carbon for the chemist
- 2 Alternating current, abbr.
- 3 A motor vehicle
- 4 Operation reminder
- 5 Pelvic bones
- 6 Auto racing org.
- 7 Unfounded rumours

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be



made at each step answering to the clue given.



For adults only

Actor-cum-director Ravi Subba Rao is all set to screen his maiden movie loaded with intimate scenes aimed at the adult audience. The movie Ee Pattan-akke Yenagide was rejected by the Regional Officer of Central Board of Film Certification who was of the view that the movie is not fit for the public. Rao then approached the Censor Board Review Committee, Hyderabad, for a certificate. The committee led by Jeevitha



Rajasekhar also expressed the same opinion, but finally gave an 'A' certificate after massive cuts and muting of scenes.

"I have struggled a lot for finance to release this movie. Finally, one of my friends agreed to help me to release the movie next month," said Rao. When asked what made

him not act, direct and bank-roll this movie, Rao said he wanted to convey a message to society on cricket betting, gambling, and booze. "I am a victim of gambling and cricket betting. I wanted to show-case what is happening in cities across the country. I agree the movie has many intimate scenes but the story demands such scenes," he said.

At the trailer launch of the film recently, Radhika Ram, who is paired opposite Ravi, said she wanted to ask Kannada movie producers and directors why they don't give more chance to girls from Karnataka.

Hunt for a life partner

It is a trend for heroes in Sandalwood to hunt for actresses to be paired with them in movies. However, Veeren Keshav who played the lead in Kannada movie Cocktail is on a hunt for a suitable girl to be his life partner.

Confirming the news, Dr Shivappa, father of Veeren Keshav, said that his family and relatives are searching for a girl for his son. "We have been enquiring with our relatives and friends to find a girl for my son. I will announce the news as soon as we find a suitable match," said Dr Shivappa. Dr Shivappa has worked as a financial adviser for NITI Aayog. He also bankrolled the Kannada movie Cocktail apart from making a brief appearance in it. Veeren Keshav debuted



in Sandalwood with a small character role in Power Star Puneeth Rajkumar-starrer Yuvaratna.

As of now, arrangements are being made to launch two Kannada movies - Rabasa and Hori

Habba. "Rabasa is an

action movie while Hori Habba has all elements including the rural sport that is common in Shivamogga and other districts of Malnad. The shooting for Rabasa is expected to begin shortly and Venkatesh will direct this movie. Bangaru Swamy will helm Hori Habba," he said. He said the process of selecting a cast and crew for the movies is in progress.

Hale and hearty

If there is one word to define Sushmita Sen, it has to be diva. She has always lived her life on her own terms and hasn't bothered about anyone's opinion. The actress recently did an Instagram Live session where she shared an update about her health. She had suffered a heart attack in March this year following which she had to undergo an angioplasty and stent implant.

The live session was an impromptu one and she was accompanied by her younger daughter Alisah. She was greeted by many of her fans and when asked about her health she replied, "My health is fabulous... I have been eating well."

She also spoke about her show Aarya. "I am waiting for Aarya 3 too. I think it's going to be very lovely this time. There is a lot that has gone into it... so many things to tell you when we finally discuss Aarya, about all the stuff that we did, pre health scare and



all the action we did post. I hope you like it," she said. Sushmita later posted the live on her Instagram and wrote, "#instalive #justbeing I missed you guys!!!! Love you for all the goodness you bring to my life...ALWAYS!!!"

In March, Sushmita had shared the news about her heart attack.

— ETimes

SHE MEANS BUSINESS

Kriti all set to delve into skincare product biz

Kriti Sanon is all set to join the long list of actresses who have turned entrepreneurs with the launch of her skincare brand. The actress recently launched her production house called Blue Butterfly Films and will be producing a film called Do Patti with herself and in the lead.

This is not Kriti's first entrepreneurial venture. Last year she invested in a fitness company which was headed by Anushka Nandani, Karan Sawhney and Robin Behl. But with her skincare brand she will be the co-founder and also the Chief Customer Officer and will actively participate in various aspects of the brand, including product formulation, research, design, testing and customer satisfaction. The brand claims to merge the power of nature with the potency of science.

Launching the brand on her social media on her 33rd birthday, Kriti wrote, "Turning my obsession of skincare into passion and then into a dream - a dream of getting a lot of amazing ingredients together to make power-packed products that actually work! We've hyphenated the power of nature and potency of science to give multiple benefits from each product. People say 'You can't have it all!' But why not? Just HYPHEN it!!!"

— ETimes



Cillian can do Ken

Oppenheimer' star Cillian Murphy says he wants to play Ken in the sequel of Margot Robbie-starrer 'Barbie'. The 47-year-old 'Peaky Blinders' actor said he would happily "have a conversation" to discuss getting involved with the rival blockbuster, reports aceshowbiz.com.

Speaking to Omelete, Cillian said: "Would I play a Ken in 'Barbie 2'? Sure, yeah. Let's read the script, let's have a conversation." Despite both 'Barbie' and 'Oppenheimer' being released at the same time, he shared it is "great for cinema" to have such major box office draws going head-to-head.

He said, "I can't wait to see (Barbie). I can't wait to see the movie. I think it's great for cinema to get all these great movies happening this summer."

'Barbie' casting directors Lucy Bevan and Allison Jones recently discussed how they had gathered the perfect ensemble to play the different Kens in the film, with roles going to the likes of Ryan Gosling, Simu Liu, Ncuti Gatwa and John Cena.

Allison told 'Vanity Fair' magazine, "We needed actors who could get the fact that our Barbies only knew pleasant things."

— IANS

Posh office for Sara

Riding high on the success of 'Zara Hatke Zara Bachke', Sara Ali Khan has invested in a premium property. The actress has bought office space in Andheri West, for a whopping Rs 9 crore.

For a long time, Sara Ali Khan was scouting across Mumbai for property and she has now finally zeroed in on this building in the western suburbs. The office space is currently under construction and is expected to be ready by September 2023. The actress will

soon be seen in Kannan Iyer helmed patriotic drama 'Ae Watan Mere Watan'. Set in the 1940s, Sara plays the role of Usha Mehta, a freedom fighter. Speaking about the project, Sara had told ETimes, "I think 'Ae Watan Mere Watan' is going to be very special for me. Like I said, I believe in telling stories that I believe are worth telling and listening to. Usha Mehta is an anonymous warrior who did so much for the Indian freedom struggle. Her story is one of bravery, strength and sacrifice, yet very few know her name. Therefore it's a film that I'm most proud and excited to share." Apart from this, Sara also has 'Metro...In Dino' costarring Aditya Roy Kapur, Anupam Kher, Pankaj Tripathi, Neena Gupta, Konkana Sen Sharma, Ali Fazal, and Fatima Sana Shaikh.

— ETimes